



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley
National Park

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Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release - Thursday, July 12, 2007

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Student Transportation Interpreter(s) to Spend Summer at Cuyahoga Valley National Park

National Park Foundation and Ford Motor Company sends 26 SCA students to work in 16 National Parks across the country

Brecksville, Ohio - John P. Debo, Jr. announced today that Cuyahoga Valley National Park will receive two student transportation interpreters, thanks to the National Park Foundation and through the generous support of Ford Motor Company, a Proud Partner of America's National Parks. Magan Lippman of New Baltimore, Michigan and Melissa McCright of Pulaski, Pennsylvania, are spending the summer in the park providing interpretive programs aboard Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.

Magan and Melissa are two of 26 students who will work in 16 National Parks across the country this summer providing visitors with invaluable information about the many alternative modes of transportation available to them within National Parks. Magan is a 5th year senior at Western Michigan University majoring in Environmental Analysis and Resource Management. Her goal is to attain a job in non-motorized transportation planning. Melissa is a senior at Slippery Rock University majoring in Environmental Studies and Geography. She hopes to gain employment in the conservation field.

The Ford Transportation Interpreter Program is made possible through a unique partnership between the National Park Foundation, the National Park Service, the Student Conservation Association, and Ford Motor Company.

"We are pleased to have Magan and Melissa with us this summer. They assist park staff by providing quality interpretive programming to the public riding on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad and visiting the Peninsula Depot Visitor Center," said Debo, "We could not maintain our level of service to the public without the support of the Ford Transportation Interpreter Program. We are grateful to be a part of this wonderful program."

As a Proud Partner of America's National Parks, Ford is working closely with the National Park Foundation and the National Park Service to help develop innovative transportation and environmental solutions that enable visitors to enjoy the nearly 400 National Parks without compromising their beauty. The Ford Transportation Interpreter Program was developed to encourage National Park visitors to use alternative modes of transportation, such as trolleys, trams, or ferries, with the ultimate goal of reducing vehicle congestion as well as noise and air pollution.

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“The National Park Foundation is thrilled to have Ford’s support as a Proud Partner of America’s National Parks,” said Vin Cipolla, President and CEO of the National Park Foundation. “National Parks are protected and cherished today because of the generosity and support of individual Americans who wanted to make a difference – these young Ford Transportation Interpreters are carrying on that fine tradition and, with their support, we will ensure that National Parks will continue to be cherished by future generations.”

Magan and Melissa are spending twelve weeks interpreting and encouraging visitors to utilize alternative forms of transportation. Each of the interns is a volunteer member of the Student Conservation Association, a national nonprofit organization that annually places more than 2,500 high school and college students in hands-on conservation service positions.

Ford is a Proud Partner of America’s National Parks. In addition to supporting the Ford Transportation Interpreter Program, Ford supports National Park transportation studies, restored the historic fleet of red touring buses in Glacier National Park to run on clean propane gas, donated over 600 zero-emissions electric vehicles to parks in California and the Northeast, and Ford donated twelve (12) 2005 Escape Hybrid vehicles, the first full hybrid to be built in North America, to the National Park Foundation for use in parks across the country

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Cuyahoga Valley National Park encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreation, and natural activities in one setting. For more information about the park, visit www.nps.gov/cuva/ or www.dayinthevalley.com/ or call (216) 524-1497 or (800) 445-9667.

The **National Park Foundation** is the national charitable partner of America’s National Parks. Created by Congress in 1967, the National Park Foundation strengthens the enduring connection between the American people and their National Parks by raising private funds, making strategic grants, creating innovative partnerships and increasing public awareness. The Foundation receives no federal funds. For more information, visit www.nationalparks.org.

Ford Motor Company believes it is important to be a good corporate citizen. Ford continues to support nonprofit organizations that enhance opportunities for the people who live and work in communities where the company does business. A Proud Partner since 2000, Ford works closely with the National Park Foundation and the National Park Service to bring alternative transportation solutions to America’s 391 National Parks in order to enhance the visitor experience and preserve park resources. For more information, visit www.nationalparks.org/proudpartners/partner_ford.shtml.

The **Student Conservation Association** is America’s largest and oldest provider of national and community conservation service opportunities, outdoor education and career training for youth. The Association’s mission is to build the next generation of conservation leaders and inspire lifelong stewardship of our environment and communities by engaging young people in hands-on service to the land. SCA volunteers and interns annually perform more than one million hours of conservation service in national parks, forests, refuges, and urban areas in all 50 states. For more information, visit www.thesca.org.

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2007 Ford Transportation Interpreters

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

Katie Freeman, Marshall, Minnesota
Karla Koch, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area

Caroline Cilley, Barre, Massachusetts
Helen Pang, Boston, Massachusetts

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Magan Lippman, New Baltimore, Michigan
Melissa McCright, Pulaski, Pennsylvania

Dinosaur National Monument

Angela McGrady, Cleveland, Ohio

Eisenhower National Historic Site

Lindsey Shafer, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Everglades National Park

Claudia Castillo, Ochopee, Florida

Fort Smith National Historic Site

Kerry Vogelpohl, Paris, Arkansas

Gateway National Recreation Area

Alex Washington, Spring, Texas

Glacier National Park

Emily Pomeranz, Brookfield, Wisconsin
Eric Riordan, Kansas City, Missouri

Gulf Islands National Seashore

Catherine Hoy, Lexington, Kentucky
Brett Patton, Long Beach, Mississippi

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Jessica Dawson, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia
Jennie Seitz, Kent, Ohio

Lowell National Historical Park

Amy Budge, Lowell, Massachusetts
Ryan Shockley, Lowell, Massachusetts

Rocky Mountain National Park

Emilie Carroll, Winetka, Illinois

Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park

Salvador Escobar, San Pablo, California
Ashlei Temena, Vallejo, California

Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Parks

Lauren Buchholz, Westminster, Colorado
Stefani Carlson, Spring Valley, California

Yosemite National Park

Kelley Sterle, Bay Village, Ohio
Tomoko Tamagawa, Santa Barbara, California